

The Draft.
Senator Wilson's statement of the result of a draft of twenty-eight thousand men, made in the Senate, is interesting in view of the debate in the House:

"We had 15,000 out of the 28,000 who were drafted lately. That number of men are divided in this form in the figures that I examine this morning: 4,400 were put down as held that is to personal service, 8,000 had furnished substitutes, and 8,400 had paid the money. You received the money for \$4,000, you had 3,000 substitutes, and 8,400 substitutes. It is probable that of that 4,400 held to personal service some will obtain substitutes or pay the money in course of time, as their time is not out. It will be remembered that not long since, when we had reported here the result of a draft for 14,000 men, half paid off, that about 1,200 or 1,300 of that number, reported themselves, and about 1,500 or 1,600 obtained substitutes. If the same ratio is preserved now, probably substitutes from 2,000 to 8,000 of those 4,400 may be released personally. If we have 5,000 have responded, then we have got 6,000 out of 14,000, besides what we have raised in money."

Mr. Johnson—"It is my fault; but I am a little more confused now than I was before. I want to know if the honorable member can tell me how many men under draft of 28,000 we have got into the field. I understand him to say that there were 16,000 of the whole number found fit for service, and that about 15,000, 2,000 of the amount of those who were willing to render personal service.

Mr. Watson—"Four thousand four hundred were put down as held. But General Fry said that probably some of the 4,400 men put in the column of personal service would pay or would furnish substitutes as their time was not out, and therefore we have to estimate that number."

A Theme for Orators on the Fourth.
(From the "Daily Journal.")

Let us return to "the orators of the day" who may be engaged to make speeches on the national anniversary, that the best service which they can render to the government and the people is to give a full and clear exposition of the national resources, as a means of aiding the national credit. This is a great measure of importance and interest, if only handled in a suitable manner. Touching the first dispute with Great Britain, we think we have heard more than one allusion in bygone years; besides, the reading of the Declaration will revive past recollections to all extent that may be required in presenting evidence. The ability of Uncle Sam to whip up a crowd of volunteers is in the best of hands with him, but is rather out of place just now. Turgid eloquence, new and striking rhetorical figures, are scarcely in demand at an hour when armed hosts are struggling with terrible earnestness and tenacity to decide the question of national unity or disintegration.

But if the men of eloquence address themselves heartily to studying and expounding the history of our country, the extent of its territorial limits, the diversity of its soils and climate, the number, magnitude and richness of its minerals, the public works executed or in progress—above all, the character and habits of its people, with the determination which they have already evinced to uphold the government of their choice—what grander themes for discussion can be found? How much additional light upon them can be cast by the history of this lamentable war, which has kindled among us a faith which is but a faint echo of the practical form of generous subscriptions to its loans! And how much good can be accomplished indirectly to the citizens, in giving the lie to the thousand idle fears about repudiation excited constantly by gold speculators—as if a nation which has "crept up" the lives of its sons by the hundred thousand, and its wealth by the hundred million, could be brought to the depth of financial dunces!

Does this topic see too common place, too familiar, to be of interest to our orators? We answer, it is the privilege of true geniuses to take hold of topics which are dry, materialistic, even repulsive, and work them up until they shall not be intelligible but made to thrill with interest. See what a chapter Victor Hugo has created out of the sewers of Paris—a theme which to ordinary minds was certainly not very attractive before the readers of "Les Misérables" came to understand it.

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